Government could consider funding the development of these roads under the Central Road Fund (CRF).

Development of roads in Uttar.Pradesh

2336. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of developmental works to be undertaken on various National Highways in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the time schedule for completion of the works; and

(c) the details of the fund sanctioned, released and utilised for this purpose during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) Widerflng to'two/four lanes, strengthening, improvement of riding quality, construction of major/minor bridges, construction of bypasses and infroduction of road safety measures are some of the works taken up on National Highways.

(b) Development of National Highways is a continuous process.

(c) During the last three years, a sum of Rs. 771.84 crores was allocated and Rs. 739.08 crores was spent for development of National Highways in the State. During this period, 25 km. length was widened to two lanes, 230 kms. 2 lane length strengthened, 15 km. length widened to four lanes, 3 bypasses, 2 major bridges and 8 minor bridges were constructed. Work of four laning in a length of 633 km. is in progress.

Upgradation of roads

2337. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cement roads, though costing double than that of asphalt roads, are long lasting and is cost effective solution to National Highways; and

(b) if so, why Government are not following advice of the expert agencies to go for a long term solution to road problem?